



News Release

282-11
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Send a soldier a historic greeting this holiday season

Presidential Library and Museum offer “Boys in Blue” Civil War postcards that can be sent to Illinois troops stationed overseas

SPRINGFIELD – Postcards showing Illinois Civil War soldiers can be sent to the state’s current fighting men and women courtesy of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM) in Springfield.

Starting on Veterans Day, Friday, November 11, and continuing through December 7, the ALPLM’s “Boys in Blue” postcards will be available at both the Library and Museum reception desks. There, for a one dollar suggested minimum donation, visitors may obtain a postcard and write a generic holiday greeting for an Illinois soldier. The postcards will be collected and mailed to two Illinois units serving in Afghanistan – the 1-14th Agribusiness Development Team and the 1644th Transportation Company. Postcards will not be addressed to specific soldiers.

The postcard promotion complements the Presidential Library’s “Letters to Soldiers” holiday tree that showcases the beautifully crafted and emotional letters written to and from Illinois soldiers during the Civil War.

The “Boys in Blue” postcards were produced from images in the ALPLM’s collections and are part of the exhibit of the same name in the Presidential Library. The exhibit features the faces, letters, sketches and songs of the men who fought in Illinois regiments during the Civil War. Original materials from the Presidential Library’s vast Civil War collections cover select members from Illinois units and include original albumen prints, lithographs, tintypes, cabinet cards, and *cartes-de-visite*. Original letters, sheet music, artifacts (including a cannon), diaries and sketches created by the soldiers themselves are also displayed. The exhibits present an individual, human side to the conflict that forever changed the course of United States history.

For more information about the ALPLM, “Boys in Blue” or the postcard promotion, visit www.presidentlincoln.org.

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